

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 17, 2018, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Laurie Colgan and Christopher Martin; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Ty Roland and Toby Talbot (East Montpelier Fire Department); Anne Reed (Conservation Commission); Tim Maclay

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: none

Public Comment: none

Review and Approval of Minutes: Approved July 3, 2018

Ambulance Service: Ty Roland and Toby Talbot explained how the new arrangement will work. If East Montpelier can't respond to a regular call, Cabot would be second and if Cabot couldn't respond, Barre Town would be third. If a paramedic is needed and East Montpelier doesn't have one available, Barre Town would be called.

Conservation Fund: Anne Reed and the Selectboard discussed the purpose of the Conservation Fund and what is covered by the Conservation Commission's operating budget. The Board agreed to let the Conservation Commission pay for printing a preservation pamphlet with their operating budget instead of the Conservation Fund.

Highway Department Computer: The Board reviewed quotes for laptops that would be purchased under the state contract. The Selectboard approved purchase of the laptop at a cost of \$811, with an additional cost of \$219 for software and a couple of hours for setup.

Bunker Hill Circle: Chris met with Shauna Clifford from VTrans, Dan Currier from Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, and the road crew, at the Lawrence residence on Bunker Hill Circle, to discuss drainage issues. The consensus of the meeting is that the problem was caused when the Lawrence garage was built; the garage impeded the swale that used to be there, and the Town does not have an obligation to spend money to solve the issue that was caused by the garage. There are things that the town could try, but none of the alternatives that have been discussed would be satisfactory without causing problems for other landowners, unless the residents would approve making it a one-way road with large ditches. The Board will send a letter to the Lawrences explaining the situation.

Celebration: Rich Phillips reported that the Stranahan committee feels that we should have an annual event to celebrate Marshfield, possibly in the Stranahan Town Forest. They are looking for the Selectboard's support. He noted that it doesn't seem that many people are using the forest, and the committee would like to get people to use the forest, and they would also like to have a day for townspeople to get together. The Board did not see any issues with it.

Climate Change: Rich Phillips brought a letter to public officials, with a copy of the resolution voted at Town Meeting. He would like to add the School Board and school Superintendent to the list of people who will get the letter. He is discouraged that work on improving the energy efficiency at Twinfield has stalled. He acknowledged that much work has been done, but he feels that the taxpayers are throwing money away on energy costs because of the lack of weatherization. He would like the Selectboard to help convince Twinfield to act on the resolution. Rich Baker does not feel that it is appropriate for the Selectboard to try to get involved in school matters, but the Board supports sending a copy of the letter and resolution to the School Board since it represents the will of those who attended town meeting.

Covered Bridge Property: Rich Phillips raised concerns about whether haying is appropriate under the management plan or whether the haying is being done at the wrong time for ground-nesting birds. Tim Maclay stated that he volunteered to start haying to lower the risk of fire. The Board suggested that the management plan should be revised before the mowing season next year, and the issue can be addressed in the management plan. Chris noted that we need to decide whether to continue haying to keep the fields open, or let the trees grow in. Rich Baker suggested having the Conservation Commission look at the management plan and make suggestions.

Fuel Bids: The Board received the following bids:

	Propane Floating	Propane Fixed	Diesel Floating	Diesel Fixed	Heating Floating	Heating Fixed
Gillespie	1.57159	1.71	2.4543	N/A	2.4253	2.53
Packard	N/A	N/A	2.5224	N/A	2.5134	2.6360
Dead River	1.79	1.91	2.4716	2.72	2.4546	2.43

The Board chose Gillespie's floating price for propane, Gillespie's floating price for diesel, and Dead River's fixed price for heating fuel.

Traffic Control: The Board executed a contract renewal with the Washington County Sheriff's Department, in the amount of \$2,500.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll. They executed a deed for a cemetery lot.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the July 17, 2018 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
